

U.S. Serial No.: 10/748,082

REMARKS

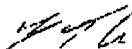
Applicant thanks the examiner for indicating that claims 3, 4 and 9 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 3, 4 and 9 have been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of their respective base claims. New dependent claims 14-31 have been added to retain the scope of claim coverage by rewriting claims 4 and 9 in independent form. Claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer since these claims were either incorporated in independent claim 3 or made redundant by the new claim set. No new matter has been added.

Having fully responded to the Office action, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should any issues arise that prevent early allowance of the above application, the examiner is invited contact the undersigned to resolve such issues.

To the extent an extension of time is needed for consideration of this response, Applicant hereby request such extension and, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account number 502117 for any fees associated therewith.

Date: 9/23/05

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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